

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An optical element holding device for holding an optical element, the optical element holding device comprising:
 - a frame member;
 - a holding member arranged in the frame member and configured to hold the optical element;
 - a displacement portion provided between the frame member and the holding member and configured to be displaced in a direction intersecting with an optical axis of the optical element by a driving force ~~applied from outside the frame member~~;
 - a parallel link portion connected to the frame member and the displacement portion and configured to guide the displacement portion in the direction intersecting with an optical axis of the optical element; and
 - a transmission portion, connected to the holding member and the displacement portion, and configured to transmit displacement of the displacement portion to the holding member, wherein the transmission portion displaces the holding member in a direction substantially parallel to the optical axis of the optical element.
2. (Original) The optical element holding device according to claim 1, wherein the displacement portion is displaced within a plane that is orthogonal to the optical axis of the optical element.
3. (Previously Presented) The optical element holding device according to claim 1, further comprising:
 - a driving member attached to the frame member and configured to generate the driving

force, wherein the driving member urges the displacement portion in a direction intersecting with the optical axis of the optical element.

4. (Previously Presented) The optical element holding device according to claim 1, further comprising:

a driving member attached to the frame member and configured to generate the driving force, wherein the frame member is annular and has a center, and the driving member urges the displacement portion toward the center of the frame member.

5. (Previously Presented) The optical element holding device according to claim 3, wherein the driving member includes:

a driving element; and
a housing connected to the displacement portion and configured to accommodate the driving element.

6. (Previously Presented) The optical element holding device according to claim 5, wherein the housing includes a coupling portion configured to transmit a driving force generated by the driving element to the displacement portion.

7. (Previously Presented) The optical element holding apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the driving member includes a rough adjustment mechanism that roughly adjusts the position of the holding member, and a fine movement mechanism that finely adjusts the position of the holding member.

8. (Original) The optical element holding device according to claim 7, wherein the fine movement mechanism includes a piezoelectric element.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) The optical element holding device according to claim 1, further comprising:

an urging member arranged between the displacement portion and the frame member and configured to urge the displacement portion toward the frame member.

11. (Previously Presented) The optical element holding device according to claim 1, wherein the transmission portion is a rod having one end, connected to the holding member in a manner rotatable and tiltable in any direction, and another end, connected to the displacement portion in a manner rotatable and tiltable in any direction, with the one end and the other end of the rod being connected by an axis tilted relative to a direction in which the displacement portion is displaced.

12. (Original) The optical element holding device according to claim 11, wherein the displacement portion is one of three displacement portions that are arranged on the frame member, and the transmission portion is one of three transmission portions associated with the displacement portions, with each transmission portion including two rods connected to the associated displacement portion.

13. (Previously Presented) The optical element holding device according to claim 1, further comprising:

a vibration attenuating mechanism arranged between the frame member and the displacement portion and configured to attenuate vibration of the displacement portion generated by the driving force.

14. (Original) The optical element holding device according to claim 13, wherein the vibration attenuating mechanism includes a friction member fixed to one of the frame member and the displacement portion and slidably contacting the other one of the frame member and the displacement portion.

15. (Previously Presented) The optical element holding device according to claim 1, wherein at least two of the frame member, the displacement portion, the parallel link portion, and the transmission portion are monolithically formed as a single structure body.

16. (Previously Presented) The optical element holding device according to claim 15, wherein the single structure body is formed through engraving machining and includes a connecting portion connecting the at least two of the frame member, the displacement portion, the parallel link portion, and the transmission portion to one another.

17. (Previously Presented) The optical element holding device according to claim 16, wherein the connecting portion is formed by a plurality of connecting portions connecting in a relatively movable manner the frame member and the parallel link portion, the displacement portion and the parallel link portion, the displacement portion and the transmission portion, and the transmission portion and the holding member.

18. (Previously Presented) The optical element holding device according to claim 1, further comprising:

a displacement detection mechanism including a scale mounted on the holding member; and

a monitoring portion arranged on the frame member and configured to monitor a position of the scale.

19. (Previously Presented) The optical element holding device according to claim 18, wherein the monitoring portion reads the detection result while maintaining the frame member in an hermetically sealed state.

20. (Previously Presented) The optical element holding device according to claim 1, further comprising:

a seal configured to isolate an inner space of the frame member from the outer side of the frame member and to hermetically seal the inner space of the frame member.

21. (Previously Presented) A barrel comprising:

an optical element; and

the holding device according to claim 1 that holds the optical element.

22. (Previously Presented) The barrel according to claim 21, wherein the optical element is one of a plurality of optical elements constituting a projection optical system configured to project an image of a predetermined pattern formed on a mask onto a substrate.

Appl. No. 10/584,177
Amdt. dated October 14, 2009
Amendment after Notice of Allowance

23. (Original) An exposure apparatus for exposing an image of a predetermined pattern onto a substrate, the exposure apparatus comprising:

a mask on which the image of the predetermined pattern is formed; and
the barrel according to claim 22 that transfers the image onto the substrate.

24. (Original) A device manufacturing method comprising:

a lithography process including exposure performed with the exposure apparatus according to claim 23.